

What is claimed is:

1. A resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web comprising:
  - (a) a first surface and a second surface generally parallel to and spaced apart from said first surface;
  - (b) a plurality of fluid passageways comprising side walls extending between said first surface and said second surface to place said first surface and said second surface in fluid communication with one another; and
  - (c) an occluding material which causes a mechanical change in said side walls of said fluid passageways upon contact with fluid rendering said first surface and second surface to be in non-fluid communication with one another at said fluid passageways.
2. The resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web according to Claim 1 wherein said web is a single layer.
3. The resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web according to Claim 1 wherein said web is co-extruded with at least one other layer.
4. The resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web according to Claim 3 wherein said web is joined to at least one other layer.
5. The resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web according to Claim 3 wherein said web is joined to at least two layers.
6. The resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web according to Claim 1 wherein said occluding material is selected from the group consisting of polyurethanes, polyamides, polyester amides, polyether ester amides, cellulose derivatives, alkyl and methyl acrylates, polyvinyl alcohol, poly(2-ethyl oxazoline), polyethyleneimine, polyvinyl pyrrolidinone, polyamides, polyacrylamide, polymethylacrylamide and metal salts thereof, polyethylene glycol, copolymers of vinyl acetate and ethylene, copolymers of polyureas, copolymers of vinyl acetate and vinyl pyrrolidinone, copolymers of polyether amide, copolymers of polyether,

sorbitol, mannitol, glycerol, sucrose, the esters of citric acid, triacetin, diacetin, sulfonamides, tartrates, benzoates, adipates, sebacates, sucrose esters, and mixtures thereof.

7. The resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web according to Claim 1 wherein said fluid passageways comprise a first opening on said first surface.
8. The resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web according to Claim 7 wherein said occluding material is partially exposed at the first opening of the fluid passageway.
9. The resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web according to Claim 7 wherein said occluding material is totally exposed at the first opening of the fluid passageway.
10. The resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web according to Claim 7 wherein said occluding material is unexposed at the first opening of the fluid passageway.
11. An absorbent article comprising
  - (a) a fluid permeable facing layer;
  - (b) a breathable backsheet; and
  - (c) a first absorbent layer positioned between said fluid permeable facing layer and said breathable backsheet;wherein said breathable backsheet comprises:
  - (i) a resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web comprising a first surface and a second surface generally parallel to and spaced apart from said first surface;
  - (ii) a plurality of fluid passageways comprising sidewalls extending between said first surface and said second surface to place said first surface and said second surface in fluid communication with one another; and
  - (iii) an occluding material which causes a mechanical change in said side walls of said fluid passageways upon contact with

fluid rendering said first surface and second surface in non fluid communication with one another at said fluid passageways.

12. The absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein the resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web is a single layer.
13. The absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein the resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web is co-extruded with at least one other layer.
14. The absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein the resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web is joined to at least one other layer.
15. The absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein the resilient, three dimensional, fluid pervious polymeric web is joined to at least two layers.
16. The absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein said occluding material is selected from the group consisting of polyurethanes, polyamides, polyester amides, polyether ester amides, cellulose derivatives, alkyl and methyl acrylates, polyvinyl alcohol, poly(2-ethyl oxazoline), polyethyleneimine, polyvinyl pyrrolidinone, polyamides, polyacrylamide, polymethylacrylamide and metal salts thereof, polyethylene glycol, copolymers of vinyl acetate and ethylene, copolymers of polyureas, copolymers of vinyl acetate and vinyl pyrrolidinone, copolymers of polyether amide, copolymers of polyether, sorbitol, mannitol, glycerol, sucrose, he esters of citric acid, triacetin, diacetin, sulfonamides, tartrates, benzoates, adipates, sebacates, sucrose esters, and mixtures thereof.
17. The absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein said fluid passageways comprise a first opening on said first surface.
18. The absorbent article of Claim 17 wherein said occluding material is partially exposed at the first opening of the fluid passageway.

19. The absorbent article of Claim 17 said occluding material is totally exposed at the first opening of the fluid passageway.
20. The absorbent article of Claim 17 said occluding material is unexposed at the first opening of the fluid passageway.